

# ABSTRACT

A method and system for detecting and optionally characterizing background intensity gradients is disclosed. Various embodiments of the present invention employ metrics computed for a number of features within an image of a microarray that provide an indication of background intensity gradients within the image of the microarray. In one embodiment of the present invention, a metric is computed for a feature by determining the size of a region surrounding the feature for which the difference between the mean and median pixel intensities is large.